

Featured Guests:



Thomas Kohnstamm

Author of *Do Travel Writers Go to Hell?: A Swashbuckling Tale of High Adventures*

www.thomaskohnstamm.com □



Meg Wolitzer

Author of *The Ten-Year Nap*

<http://www.amazon.com/Ten-Year-Nap-Meg-Wolitzer>

Co-host Roger Clark

Partner, Clark, Goldberg & Madruga

www.clarkgoldberg.com



Thomas Kohnstamm is by turns a writer, traveler, and seeker of all that is odd, adventurous, and ridiculous. He is the author of *Do Travel Writers Go to Hell?: A Swashbuckling Tale of High Adventures*, *Questionable Ethics*, and *Professional Hedonism*. Born in 1975, Thomas traveled extensively during his youth and wrote his first book for Lonely Planet shortly after graduating from Bowdoin College. After pursuing an advanced degree in Latin American studies, Kohnstamm

reluctantly took a position as a researcher at a large Wall Street firm. The restless author quickly tired of the corporate drudgery and, after some hesitation, accepted an assignment to update Lonely Planet's guidebook on Brazil. The resulting book (a "chronicle [of] events that took me from bourgeoisie working stiff with a repressed travel habit to a full-time mercenary travel hack, with all the good, bad, and surreal shit that it entails") is a wonderfully picaresque journey through the vibrant Brazilian landscape.

Thomas went on to write for over a dozen Lonely Planet books and contribute to Travel + Leisure, Time Out New York, The SF Chronicle, The LA Times, The Denver Post, The Miami Herald, Forbes and numerous other publications. He speaks fluent Spanish and Portuguese.

Meg Wolitzer studied creative writing at Smith College and graduated from Brown University in 1981. Her first novel, *Sleepwalking*, a story of three college girls obsessed with poetry and death, was published in 1982. Her following books include *Hidden Pictures* (1986), *This Is Your Life* (1988), *Friends for Life* (1994), *Surrender, Dorothy* (1998), *The Wife* (2003), *The Position* (2005), and *The Ten-Year Nap* (2008). For a group of four New York friends in *The Ten-Year Nap*, the past decade has been largely defined by marriage and motherhood. Educated and reared to believe that they would conquer the world, they then left jobs as corporate lawyers, investment bankers, and film scouts to stay home with their babies. What was meant to be a temporary leave of absence has lasted a decade. Now, at age forty, with the halcyon days of young motherhood behind them and without professions to define them, Amy, Jill, Roberta, and Karen face a life that is not what they were brought up to expect but seems to be the one they have chosen. Her short story "Tea at the House" was featured in 1998's *Best American Short Stories* collection. She has taught creative writing at the University of Iowa's Writers' Workshop and Skidmore

College and has written several Hollywood screenplays, most of which are unproduced. Two films have been based on her work; This Is My Life, scripted and directed by Nora Ephron, and the TV movie Surrender, Dorothy, starring Diane Keaton.

Roger Clark is the founding member and managing partner of Clark, Goldberg & Madruga www.clarkgoldberg.com. In his more than 25 years practicing law, Roger has earned a national reputation as a successful trial attorney representing insurers, cable television providers, and small and large businesses in a broad range of business litigation matters. "My philosophy has always been that the attorneys in this law firm must be prepared not just to 'litigate' a case, but to try it before a judge or jury, while at the same time keeping the client's goals and objectives squarely within our sights." Roger is rated "AV" by Martindale-Hubbell, which is the highest rating that can be bestowed upon an attorney.

Hosted by Steve Murphy.



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Contact:

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